IN THE UNITED STATES
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No.	:	10/505,286
Applicants	:	Christian BRUGGER et al.
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Examiner	:	George R. FOURSON III
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Title: METHOD OF MANUFACTURING A TRANSPONDER

APPEAL BRIEF

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Customer Window, Mail Stop **Appeal Brief - Patents**
Randolph Building
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Sir:

In response to the FINAL Office Action dated 18 October 2007, finally rejecting claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 8-16 and 19-21, and in support of the Notice of Appeal filed on 18 January 2008, Applicants hereby respectfully submit this Appeal Brief.

REAL PARTY IN INTEREST

According to an assignment recorded at Reel 019719, Frame 0843, NXP, B.V. owns all of the rights in the above-identified U.S. patent application.

RELATED APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

There are no other appeals or interferences related to this application or to any related application, nor will the disposition of this case affect, or be affected by, any other application directly or indirectly.

STATUS OF CLAIMS

Claims 1, 2, 4, 5, and 6-21 are all pending in the application.

Claim 6 is withdrawn by the Examiner as supposedly being drawn to an unelected invention.

Claims 7, 17 and 18 stand as being objected to for being in dependent form, but have been indicated to define patentable subject matter.

Accordingly, the claims on Appeal are claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 8-16 and 19-21.

STATUS OF AMENDMENTS

There are no pending amendments with respect to this application.

SUMMARY OF CLAIMED SUBJECT MATTER

The present invention is directed to method of manufacturing a transponder, and a transponder manufactured by such a method.[1]

Accordingly, as broadly recited in claim 1, a method of manufacturing a transponder (FIGs. 5 and 9 – element 1; page 5, line 10), which transponder is provided and designed for contactless communication with a communications station suitable therefor (page 5, lines 11-12) and which transponder comprises a transponder IC (FIGs. 1, 3-9 – element 2; page 5, line 2) comprising two IC contacts (FIGs. 3-9, elements 7 & 8; page 5, line 18) and two substantially planar transmission elements (FIGs. 5 and 9 – elements 3 & 4; page 5, lines 12-13), in which method the transponder IC is brought into communication-capable connection (page 5, lines 22-23), via each one of its two IC contacts with a corresponding one of two transmission element strips (FIGs. 2-4 and 7-8 – elements 13 & 14; page 5, line 24) provided on a tape-like carrier (FIGs. 2-4 and 7-8 – element 11; page 5, line 25) of an intermediate product (FIGs. 2-4 and 7-8 – element 12; page 5, line 25) and extending substantially parallel to the longitudinal direction of the carrier (page 5, lines 25-26) and in which

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1 In the description to follow, citations to various reference numerals, figures, and corresponding text in the specification are provided solely to comply with Patent Office rules. It should be understood that these reference numerals, figures, and text are exemplary in nature, and not in any way limiting of the true scope of the claims. It would therefore be improper to import anything into any of the claims simply on the basis of **exemplary** language that is provided here only under the obligation to satisfy Patent

the intermediate product is then cut through along two cutting zones (FIGs. 4 and 8 - element 16; page 6, lines 27-29) extending perpendicularly to the longitudinal direction of the carrier and each lying at a distance from the transponder (page 6, lines 15-18), and in which the transponder IC is connected to the portion of the intermediate product lying between the cutting zones (FIGs. 5 and 9; page 6, lines 21-24).

As broadly recited in claim 4, the method further features the transponder IC (FIGs. 1, 3-9 – element 12; page 5, line 25) being connected to the portion of the intermediate product (FIGs. 2-4 and 7-8 – element 12; page 5, line 25) by a glued joint (FIGs. 3-5 and 7-9 – element 6) (page 5, lines 26-32; page 7, lines 5-8).

As broadly recited in claims 5 and 19, the method further features a transponder IC (FIGs. 6-9 – element 2; page 5, line 2) with a quadrilateral main surface being used (FIG. 6; page 6, lines 31-32), in which transponder IC the IC contacts (FIG. 6 - elements 7 & 8; page 5, line 18) are provided in two corner areas of the main surface lying on a diagonal of the main surface (FIGs. 6-9, element 17 - page 6, lines 32-33) and wherein the transponder IC is connected to the portion of the intermediate product (FIGs. 2-4 and 7-8 – element 12; page 5, line 25) in such a position that the diagonal of the main surface extends perpendicularly to the longitudinal direction of the carrier (FIGs. 7-8; page 7, lines 3-5).

As broadly recited in claim 8, the method further features the two transmission element strips (FIGs. 2-4 and 7-8 – elements 13 & 14; page 5, line 24) provided on the tape-like carrier (FIGs. 2-4 and 7-8 – element 11; page 5, line 25) of the intermediate product include the two substantially planar transmission elements (FIGs. 5 and 9 – elements 3 & 4; page 5, lines 12-13) of the transponder (FIGs. 5 and 9 – element 1; page 5, line 10) and two substantially planar transmission elements for another transponder (see FIGs. 4 and 8).

As broadly recited in claim 9, the method further features the intermediate product (FIGs. 2-4 and 7-8 – element 12; page 5, line 25) being then cut through along two cutting zones (FIGs. 4 and 8 - element 16; page 6, lines 27-29) extending

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Office rules for maintaining an Appeal.

perpendicularly to the longitudinal direction of the carrier (FIGs. 2-4 and 7-8 – element 11; page 5, line 25) and each lying at a distance from the transponder (FIGs. 5 and 9 – element 1; page 5, line 10) (page 6, lines 15-18), the cutting separates the two substantially planar transmission elements (FIGs. 5 and 9 – elements 3 & 4; page 5, lines 12-13) of the transponder from the two substantially planar transmission elements for the other transponder (see FIGs. 4-5 and 8-9).

As broadly recited in claim 10, the method further features when the intermediate product (FIGs. 2-4 and 7-8 – element 12; page 5, line 25) is then cut through along two cutting zones (FIGs. 4 and 8 - element 16; page 6, lines 27-29) extending perpendicularly to the longitudinal direction of the carrier (FIGs. 2-4 and 7-8 – element 11; page 5, line 25) and each lying at a distance from the transponder (FIGs. 5 and 9 – element 1; page 5, line 10), said cutting cuts through both of the two transmission element strips (FIGs. 2-4 and 7-8 – elements 13 & 14; page 5, line 24) to separate the two substantially planar transmission elements (FIGs. 5 and 9 – elements 3 & 4; page 5, lines 12-13) from the two transmission element strips (see FIGs 4-5 and 8-9).

As broadly recited in claim 11, the method further features the two transmission element strips (FIGs. 2-4 and 7-8 – elements 13 & 14; page 5, line 24) being each longer in the longitudinal direction than in a transverse direction perpendicular to the longitudinal direction (FIGs. 3-5 and 7-9).

As broadly recited in claim 12, the method further features the two IC contacts (FIGs. 3-9, elements 7 & 8; page 5, line 18) being provided as strips extending opposite along opposite edges of the transponder IC (FIGs. 1, 3-9 – element 2; page 5, line 2).

As broadly recited in claim 13, a method of manufacturing a transponder (FIGs. 5 and 9 – element 1; page 5, line 10) provided and designed for contactless communication with a communications station suitable therefor and which transponder comprises a transponder IC (FIGs. 1, 3-9 – element 2; page 5, line 12) comprising two IC contacts (FIGs. 3-9, elements 7 & 8; page 5, line 18) and two substantially planar transmission elements (FIGs. 5 and 9 – elements 3 & 4; page 5, lines 12-13). The method comprises: providing a tape-like carrier (FIGs. 2-4 and 7-8

– element 11; page 5, line 25) of an intermediate product (FIGs. 2-4 and 7-8 – element 12; page 5, line 25) having two transmission element strips (FIGs. 2-4 and 7-8 – elements 13 & 14; page 5, lines 24) provided thereon, said transmission element strips extending parallel to each other along a longitudinal direction of the carrier which is longer than a transverse direction of the carrier (FIGs. 2-4 and 7-8; page 5, lines 24-26) bringing each of the IC contacts of the transponder IC into communication-capable connection (page 5, lines 22-23) with a corresponding one of the two transmission element strips; cutting through the carrier and the two transmission element strips along two cutting zones (FIGs. 4 and 8 - element 16; page 6, lines 27-29) extending perpendicularly to the longitudinal direction of the carrier and each lying at a distance from the transponder(page 6, lines 15-18), and in which the transponder IC is connected to a portion of the intermediate product lying between the cutting zones (FIGs. 5 and 9; page 6, lines 21-24).

As broadly recited in claim 14, the method further features each IC contact (FIGs. 3-9, elements 7 & 8; page 5, line 18) being connected in electrically conductive manner to the corresponding transmission element strip (FIGs. 2-4 and 7-8 – elements 13 & 14; page 5, line 24).

As broadly recited in claims 15, 16, 18 and 21, the method further features gluing (page 5, lines 26-32; page 7, lines 5-8) the transponder IC (FIGs. 1, 3-9 – element 2; page 5, line 2) to the tape-like carrier (FIGs. 2-4 and 7-8 – element 11; page 5, line 25).

GROUNDS OF REJECTION TO BE REVIEWED ON APPEAL

The grounds of rejection to be reviewed on Appeal are: (1) the rejection of claims 1, 2, 4, 8-11 and 13-16 under 35 U.S.C. § 102 over Brady et al. U.S. Patent 6,140,146 ("Brady"); and (2) the rejection of claims 5, 12 and 19-21 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 over Brady.

ARGUMENTS

(1) Claims 1, 2, 4, 8-11 & 13-16 Are Patentable Under 35 U.S.C. § 102 over Brady

Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections for at least the following

reasons.

PRELIMINARY REMARKS

Reproduced below verbatim is the Examiner's entire rejection of **all eleven claims** mentioned above:

> Brady et al discloses providing transmission element strips (antenna pattern) 318 on a tape-like carrier (tape) 310 wherein the antenna pattern has a longest dimension extending parallel to the tape length, bringing two contacts on each IC 320 into electrical communication with corresponding transmission strips and cutting the tape to separate each IC 320 from an adjacent IC 320 and to separate the strips into planar transmission elements (col.3, lines 30-40, col.4, lines 23-39, col.4, line 62-col.5, line 7, col.5, line 48-65, col.6, line 66- col.7, line 64, fig.3E and fig.4A-5B). The disclosed bonding of the IC chip to the tape is encompassed by "gluing" which is defined as "to cause to stick tightly with or as if with glue" (http://mw1.merriam-webster.com/dictionary, 10/12/2007).

These eleven claims include many, many specifically recited features that the Examiner clearly does not even bother to acknowledge or mention in his rejection of these eleven claims. A non-exhaustive list of such features includes: "*wherein the two transmission element strips provided on the tape-like carrier of the intermediate product include the two substantially planar transmission elements of the transponder and two substantially planar transmission elements for another transponder*," "*wherein when the intermediate product is then cut through along two cutting zones extending perpendicularly to the longitudinal direction of the carrier and each lying at a distance from the transponder, the cutting separates the two substantially planar transmission elements of the transponder from the two substantially planar transmission elements for the other transponder*," "*wherein when the intermediate product is then cut through along two cutting zones extending perpendicularly to the longitudinal direction of the carrier and each lying at a distance from the transponder,*

said cutting cuts through both of the two transmission element strips to separate the two substantially planar transmission elements from the two transmission element strips," "*wherein the two transmission element strips are each longer in the longitudinal direction than in a transverse direction perpendicular to the longitudinal direction*," "*cutting through the carrier and the two transmission element strips along two cutting zones extending perpendicularly to the longitudinal direction of the carrier and each lying at a distance from the transponder*," where the *"transmission element strips extend parallel to each other along a longitudinal direction of the carrier which is longer than a transverse direction of the carrier*."

Frankly, the undersigned attorney believes that the FINAL Office Action is improper and should be rescinded for failure of the Examiner to even mention all of these features – never mind actually citing something in Brady where he believes these features are disclosed.

Furthermore, Applicants respectfully submit that it is apparent that none of these features are disclosed by Brady. Indeed, the undersigned attorney drafted several of these claims after reading Brady and included features that are directly contrary to the teachings of Brady.

Applicants will now turn to the individual claims and present at least some of the reasons why Applicants believe that these claims are all clearly patentable over Brady under 35 U.S.C. § 102.

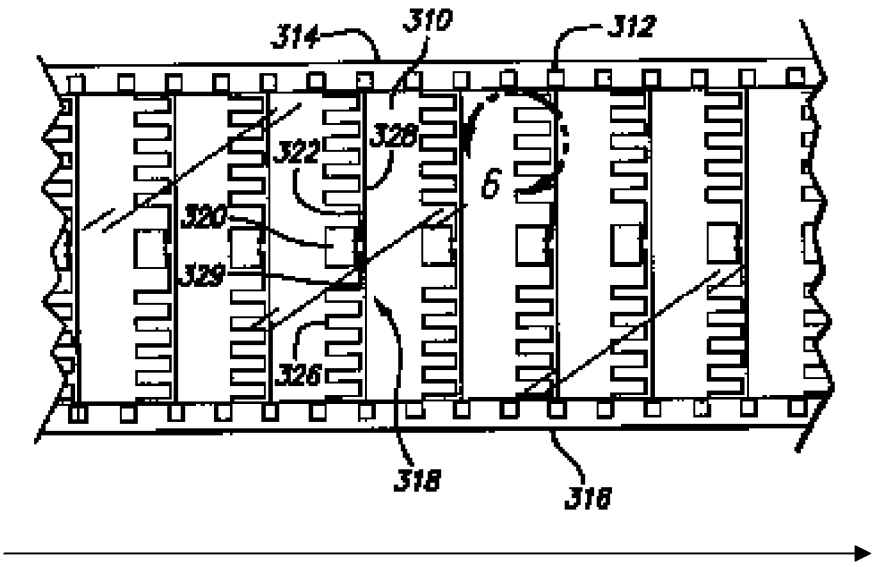
Claim 1

Among other things, in the method of claim 1 the transponder IC is brought into communication-capable connection, via each one of its two IC contacts with a corresponding one of two transmission element ***strips*** provided on a tape-like carrier of an intermediate product and ***extending substantially parallel to the longitudinal direction of the carrier***.

Applicants respectfully submit that Brady does not show any method including such features.

At the outset, lest there be any doubt about what constitutes "*the longitudinal direction*," Applicants note that the longitudinal direction is specifically defined in claim 1 by the language that recites that "*the intermediate product is then cut through*

along two cutting zones extending perpendicularly to the longitudinal direction of the carrier." Thus, in FIG. 5 of Brady, the longitudinal direction can only be as indicated below:



Longitudinal Direction

Applicants respectfully submit that it is apparent that Brady's antenna circuits 318 do not extend substantially parallel to the longitudinal direction of the carrier. Instead, Brady's antenna circuits 318 extend transverse to the longitudinal direction of the carrier.

Furthermore, Brady discloses a carrier including a plurality of separate individual antenna circuits 318, such as coils, dipoles, loops, spirals, meanders, patches, etc. Antenna circuits 318 are not strips. They are coils, dipoles, loops, spirals, meanders, or patches.

Accordingly, in direct contrast to claim 1, However, Brady does not disclose or suggest any "transmission element ***strips*** provided on a tape-like carrier ***extending substantially parallel to the longitudinal direction of the carrier***."

Accordingly, for at least these reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 1 is patentable over Brady.

Claims 2, 4, and 8-11

Claims 2, 4, and 8-11 all depend from claim 1 and are patentable for at least the reasons set forth above with respect to claim 1, and for the following additional reasons.

Claim 4

Among other things, in the method of claim 4 the transponder IC is connected to the portion of the intermediate product by a glued joint.

Applicants respectfully submit that Brady does disclose any glued joint.

The Examiner states without any support or citation that "*the disclosed bonding of the IC chip to the tape is encompassed by "gluing" which is defined as "to cause to stick tightly with or as if with glue*," citing Merriam Webster.

At the outset, claim 4 does not recite "gluing." It recites a ***glued joint***. Applicants respectfully submit that it is self-evident that a glued joint requires glue.

Second, the Office Action provides no citation in support of the implicit proposition that Brady discloses "*sticking tightly*." Brady merely discloses attachment. Attachment does not imply "*sticking tightly*" and it certainly does not imply "*a glued joint.*" A rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102 cannot be supported on unknown authority, but must be supported by objective evidence of record. See generally M.P.E.P. § 2144.03A. Therefore, the rejection of claim 4 under 35 U.S.C. § 102 is deemed to be improper.

Accordingly, for at least these additional reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 4 is patentable over Brady.

Claim 8

Among other things, in the method of claim 8 the two transmission element strips provided on the tape-like carrier of the intermediate product include the two substantially planar transmission elements of the transponder and two substantially planar transmission elements for another transponder.

The Examiner has failed to cite anything in Brady that discloses these features.

Indeed, the Examiner has failed to mention these features.

Applicants respectfully submit that it is apparent from simple inspection of FIG. 5 of Brady, that Brady does not disclose these features.

Accordingly, for at least these additional reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 8 is patentable over Brady.

Claim 9

Among other things, in the method of claim 9, when the intermediate product is then cut through along two cutting zones extending perpendicularly to the longitudinal direction of the carrier and each lying at a distance from the transponder, the cutting separates the two substantially planar transmission elements of the transponder from the two substantially planar transmission elements for the other transponder.

The Examiner has failed to cite anything in Brady that discloses these features.

Indeed, the Examiner has failed to mention these features.

Applicants respectfully submit that it is apparent from simple inspection of FIG. 5 of Brady, that Brady does not disclose these features.

Accordingly, for at least these additional reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 9 is patentable over Brady.

Claim 10

Among other things, in the method of claim 10, when the intermediate product is then cut through along two cutting zones extending perpendicularly to the longitudinal direction of the carrier and each lying at a distance from the transponder, said cutting cuts through both of the two transmission element strips to separate the two substantially planar transmission elements from the two transmission element strips.

The Examiner has failed to cite anything in Brady that discloses these features.

Indeed, the Examiner has failed to mention these features.

Applicants respectfully submit that it is apparent from simple inspection of FIG. 5 of Brady, that Brady does not disclose these features.

Accordingly, for at least these additional reasons, Applicants respectfully

submit that claim 10 is patentable over Brady.

Claim 11

Among other things, in the method of claim 11, the two transmission element strips are each longer in the longitudinal direction than in a transverse direction perpendicular to the longitudinal direction.

The Examiner has failed to cite anything in Brady that discloses these features. The Examiner states that "*the antenna pattern has a longest dimension extending parallel to the tape length*." Applicants respectfully submit that inspection of FIG. 5 of Brady suggests otherwise.

Accordingly, for at least these additional reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 11 is patentable over Brady.

Claim 13

Among other things, the method of claim 13 includes providing a tape-like carrier of an intermediate product having two transmission element strips provided thereon, the transmission element strips extending parallel to each other along a longitudinal direction of the carrier which is longer than a transverse direction of the carrier, and cutting through the carrier and the two transmission element strips along two cutting zones extending perpendicularly to the longitudinal direction of the carrier and each lying at a distance from the transponder.

Applicants respectfully submit that Brady does not disclose such a combination of features, particularly ***cutting through the carrier and the two transmission element strips along two cutting zones extending perpendicularly to the longitudinal direction of the carrier and each lying at a distance from the transponder***, where the ***"transmission element strips extend parallel to each other along a longitudinal direction of the carrier which is longer than a transverse direction of the carrier***." The Examiner fails to even mention this combination of features anywhere at all in the Final Office Action, even though it was specifically highlighted and emphasized by Applicants when it was submitted in the Amendment filed on 12 April 2007.

Claims 14-16

Claims 14-16 depend from claim 13 and are deemed patentable over Brady for at least the reasons set forth above with respect to claim 13, and for the following additional reasons.

Furthermore, claims 15 and 16 recite gluing the transponder IC to the tape-like carrier. As explained above with respect to claim 4, Applicants respectfully submit that Brady does not disclose any step of gluing a transponder IC to a tape-like carrier.

So claims 15 and 16 are deemed patentable for at least these4 additional reasons.

Accordingly, for at least the reasons set forth above, Applicants respectfully request that the Board overturn the rejections of claims 1, 2, 4, 8-11 and 13-16 under 35 U.S.C. § 102 over Brady, and instruct the Examiner to withdraw these rejections.

(1) Claims 5, 12 and 19-21 Are Patentable Under 35 U.S.C. § 103 over Brady

Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections for at least the following reasons.

Claims 5 and 19

Claims 5 and 19 depend from claim 1, and therefore these claims are deemed patentable over Brady for at least the reasons set forth above with respect to claim 1, and for the following additional reasons.

Among other things, in the methods of claims 5 and 19, a transponder IC with a quadrilateral main surface is used, in which transponder IC the IC contacts are provided in two corner areas of the main surface lying on a diagonal of the main surface and wherein the transponder IC is connected to the portion of the intermediate product in such a position that the diagonal of the main surface extends perpendicularly to the longitudinal direction of the carrier.

The Examiner cites nothing whatsoever in the prior art disclosing or suggesting any of these features.

Instead the Examiner makes an unsupported statement that "*the recited placement merely amounts to a difference in shape of the contacts relative to the*

chip surface or size of the spacing between contacts."

Applicants respectfully disagree.

At the outset, claims 5 and 19 say nothing at all about the "shape of the contacts."

Furthermore, claims 5 and 19 do not recite anything regarding the "*size of a spacing between contacts*." So Applicants submit that the Examiner's statement and citations regarding "*mere dimensional limitations*" are totally irrelevant to claim 5, as claim 5 does not recite any dimensional limitations at all.

Instead, claims 5 and 19 each recite a specific structural relationship between the IC contacts and the main surface of the IC. Furthermore, the recited features absolutely do provide specific advantages and benefits and solve problems with Brady's arrangement. Some of these advantages are clearly mentioned in the specification, for example at page 7, lines 14-21. Other benefits of the claimed method over Brady's arrangement are disclosed, for example, at page 3, lines 3-11.

So Applicant's traverse any suggestion that that the arrangement does not provide unexpected benefits and advantages, and solve problems that may present themselves with Brady's arrangement.

Meanwhile, M.P.E.P. § 2143.03 provides that ***ALL*** features must be taught or suggested to support a rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103. And M.P.E.P. § 2144.03A provides that a rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103 cannot be supported on unknown authority, but must be supported by objective evidence of record.

Here the Office Action fails to cite anything in the prior art that discloses or suggest the features of claims 5 and 19, or provide any objective evidence of record to support a rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103. If the Examiner takes "official notice" that the proposed modification of Brady would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention, that position must be based on facts capable of instant and unquestionable demonstration as being "well-known" in the art, and the Examiner must be prepared to cite a reference in support of that position, or file an affidavit under 37 CFR 1.104(d)(2) if the rejection is based on facts within his or her personal knowledge. MPEP § 2144.03.

The Examiner has provided no such facts and no such affidavit here.

Accordingly, for at least these additional reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 5 and 19 are patentable over Brady.

Claims 12 and 20-21

Claims 12 and 20-21 depend from claim 1 and are deemed patentable over Brady for at least the reasons set forth above with respect to claim 1, and for the following additional reasons.

Among other things, claims 12, 20 and 21 all include a feature wherein the two IC contacts are provided as strips extending along opposite edges of the transponder IC.

The Examiner has failed to cite anything in Brady that discloses this feature.

Indeed, the Examiner has failed to mention this feature.

Applicants respectfully submit that it is apparent from simple inspection of FIG. 5 of Brady, that Brady does not disclose this feature.

Accordingly, for at least these additional reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 12, 20 and 21 are patentable over Brady.

Furthermore, claim 21 recites gluing the transponder IC to the tape-like carrier. As explained above with respect to claim 4, Applicants respectfully submit that Brady does not disclose any step of gluing a transponder IC to a tape-like carrier.

So claim 21 is deemed patentable for at least this additional reason.

Accordingly, for at least the reasons set forth above, Applicants respectfully request that the Board overturn the rejections of claims 5, 12 and 19-21 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 over Brady, and instruct the Examiner to withdraw these rejections.

CONCLUSION

For all of the foregoing reasons, Applicants respectfully request that all claim rejections be withdrawn, that the claims be allowed, and the application be passed to issue.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this reply to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0238 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16, 37 C.F.R. § 1.17 or 37 C.F.R. § 41.20, particularly extension of time fees or any additional fee required for filing this

Appeal Brief.

Respectfully submitted,

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CLAIMS APPENDIX

1. (Previously Presented) A method of manufacturing a transponder, which transponder is provided and designed for contactless communication with a communications station suitable therefor and which transponder comprises a transponder IC comprising two IC contacts and two substantially planar transmission elements, in which method the transponder IC is brought into communication-capable connection, via each one of its two IC contacts with a corresponding one of two transmission element strips provided on a tape-like carrier of an intermediate product and extending substantially parallel to the longitudinal direction of the carrier and in which the intermediate product is then cut through along two cutting zones extending perpendicularly to the longitudinal direction of the carrier and each lying at a distance from the transponder, and in which the transponder IC is connected to the portion of the intermediate product lying between the cutting zones.

2. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein each IC contact is connected in electrically conductive manner to the corresponding transmission element strip.

3. (Canceled)

4. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the transponder IC is connected to the portion of the intermediate product by a glued joint.

5. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein a transponder IC with a quadrilateral main surface is used, in which transponder IC the IC contacts are provided in two corner areas of the main surface lying on a diagonal of the main surface and wherein the transponder IC is connected to the portion of the intermediate product in such a position that the diagonal of the main surface extends perpendicularly to the longitudinal direction of the carrier.

6. (Withdrawn) A transponder for contactless communication with a communications station suitable therefor, which transponder comprises a transponder IC comprising two IC contacts and two substantially planar transmission elements, wherein the transponder was manufactured using a method as claimed in claim 1.

7. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein each IC contact is in capacitive communication with the relevant transmission element strip.

8. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the two transmission element strips provided on the tape-like carrier of the intermediate product include the two substantially planar transmission elements of the transponder and two substantially planar transmission elements for another transponder.

9. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 8, wherein when the intermediate product is then cut through along two cutting zones extending perpendicularly to the longitudinal direction of the carrier and each lying at a distance from the transponder, the cutting separates the two substantially planar transmission elements of the transponder from the two substantially planar transmission elements for the other transponder.

10. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein when the intermediate product is then cut through along two cutting zones extending perpendicularly to the longitudinal direction of the carrier and each lying at a distance from the transponder, said cutting cuts through both of the two transmission element strips to separate the two substantially planar transmission elements from the two transmission element strips.

11. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the two transmission element strips are each longer in the longitudinal direction than in a transverse direction perpendicular to the longitudinal direction.

12. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the two IC contacts are provided as strips extending opposite along opposite edges of the transponder IC.

13. (Previously Presented) A method of manufacturing a transponder provided and designed for contactless communication with a communications station suitable therefor and which transponder comprises a transponder IC comprising two IC contacts and two substantially planar transmission elements, the method comprising:

providing a tape-like carrier of an intermediate product having two transmission element strips provided thereon, said transmission element strips extending parallel to each other along a longitudinal direction of the carrier which is longer than a transverse direction of the carrier;

bringing each of the IC contacts of the transponder IC into communication-capable connection with a corresponding one of the two transmission element strips;

cutting through the carrier and the two transmission element strips along two cutting zones extending perpendicularly to the longitudinal direction of the carrier and each lying at a distance from the transponder, and in which the transponder IC is connected to a portion of the intermediate product lying between the cutting zones.

14. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 13, wherein each IC contact is connected in electrically conductive manner to the corresponding transmission element strip.

15. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 14, further comprising gluing the transponder IC to the tape-like carrier.

16. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 13, further comprising gluing the transponder IC to the tape-like carrier.

17. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 13, wherein each IC contact is in capacitive communication with the relevant transmission element strip.

18. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 17, further comprising gluing the transponder IC to the tape-like carrier.

19. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 12, wherein the transponder IC has a quadrilateral main surface, in which transponder IC the IC contacts are provided in two corner areas of the main surface lying on a diagonal of the main surface and wherein the transponder IC is connected to the portion of the intermediate product in such a position that the diagonal of the main surface extends perpendicularly to the longitudinal direction of the carrier.

20. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 19, wherein each IC contact is connected in electrically conductive manner to the corresponding transmission element strip.

21. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 19, further comprising gluing the transponder IC to the tape-like carrier.

EVIDENCE APPENDIX

{None}

RELATED PROCEEEDINGS APPENDIX

{None}